(b) A quantity of 161.65 lakh tonnes of rice (including paddy in terms of rice) has been procured upto 14.8.2003 in the current Kharif Marketing Season 2002-2003 as against 221.29 lakh tonnes procured in the last Kharif Marketing Season 2001-2002 and 158.02 lakh tonnes of wheat has been procurred in the Rabi Marketing Season 2003-2004 compared to 190.24 lakh tonnes procured during the previous Rabi Marketing Season 2002-2003.

(c) The procurement of foodgrains has declined during the current Kharif/Rabi Marketing Season due to a number of factors *viz.* drought conditions in most of the paddy producing States, including Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Chhattisgarh, fall in production of foodgrains and open market prices ruling at par or higher than the Minimum Support Prices.

(d) The Government has sufficient stock of wheat and rice to meet the demand of consumption of foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other Welfare Schemes. As such, there is no need to import foodgrains to meet the requirement.

Disposal of old foodgrains

3063. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of wheat stock in FCI godowns, which is of the period 1998-99, State-wise and Depot-wise;

(b) whether this wheat of 1998 and 1999 is edible; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to dispose off this wheat in order to ensure that it is sold before it begins to rot?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) As reported by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) there was a total stock of 37,550 MT of wheat pertaining of crop year 1998-99 in its godowns as on 1st July, 2003. The State-wise and Depot-wise details of these stocks are at Statement (See below).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government has instructed the FCI to dispose of the old stock of wheat, particularly those which are more than three years old, on priority. To speed up disposal, lower prices have been fixed for old stocks of wheat under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic). The stocks are also being issued under the Targeted Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes, as well as for export.

Statement

Stocks of wheat of crop year 1998-99 *stored in the godowns of the FCI as on* 1 -7-2003 *state-wise and Depot-wise*

SI.No.	State/Depot	Quantity (MT)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	
	Sanath Nagar	4939 (Stacked mixed crop 1998-2001)
	TOTAL	4939
2.	Chhattisgarh	
	Neora	2174
	Jagdalpur	29
	TOTAL	2203
3.	Haryana	%
	Baduauli	2
	Hodal	287
	Palwal	287
	Fazilka	1356
	Gurgaon	712
	Safidon	64
	Cheeka	324
	Dhand	533
	Jakholi	114
	Kaithal	122
	Nissing	2030
	Pehowa	86
	TOTAL	5917
4.	J&K	
	Leh	250
	TOTAL	250

SI.No.	State/Depot	Quantity (MT)
5.	Madhya Pradesh	115
	Ujjain	42
	Ratlam	85
	Indore	1442
	Khandwa	69
	Khargaon	1753
	TOTAL	
6.	Maharashtra	
	FSDS Bor	168
	FSDS Manmad	1446
	CWC Manmad	80
	FSDS Nagpur	1
	FSDS Poona	171
	SWC Poona	148
	TOTAL	1914
7.	Punjab	396
	Fazilka	1137
	Zira	18
	Batala	1551
	TOTAL	
8.	Uttaranchal	46
	Jawalapur	450
	Haridwar	496
	TOTAL	
9.	West Bengal	
	OJM	1800
	Kalyani	10393
	Dhrbour	275
	TOTAL	12468
10.	Delhi	6059
	Mayapuri	6059
	Total	
	GRAND TOTAL	37550